

West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service

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WEST VIRGINIA HOG INVENTORY

WEST VIRGINIA -- Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2003, was 10,000 head. This was down 1,000 head from December 1, 2002. Of the 10,000 head, 2,000 were for breeding; unchanged from 2002. The breakdown of the remaining 8,000 market hogs and pigs was as follows: 3,000 head were under 60 pounds; 1,000 were from 60-119 pounds; 1,000 were from 120-179 pounds; and 3,000 were 180 pounds and over.

Annual pig crop totaled 18,500 head, 6 percent above the 2002 pig crop. Sows farrowing from December 2002 through November 2003 totaled 2,500 head, up 14 percent from the previous year. Pigs per litter averaged 7.40 pigs, down 7 percent from 2002, at 7.95 pigs.

The number of hog operations will no longer be published with this report. The hog operation estimate will be combined with the cattle, sheep and dairy operation estimates and published in a single Livestock report in the Spring of 2004.

UNITED STATES -- Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2003, was 60.0 million head. This was 1 percent above December 1, 2002, but slightly below September 1, 2003.

Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2002, but 1 percent above last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.1 million head, was 1 percent above last year, but slightly below last quarter.

The September-November 2003 U.S. pig crop, at 25.3 million head, was 2 percent more than 2002, but 1 percent below 2001. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.84 million head, 1 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.93 for the September-November period, compared to 8.83 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.81 million sows farrow during the December 2003 - February 2004 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003, but 1 percent below 2002. Intended farrowings for March - May 2004, at 2.85 million sows, are 1 percent below the same period in 2003 and 3 percent below 2002.

Revisions - All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2002 through September 2003 were reviewed using final pig crop official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, adjustments of less than one-half percent were made to the March 2003 total inventory, and one percent to the June 2003 and September 2003 total inventories. An adjustment of less than one-half percent was made to the December 2002 - February 2003 pig crop and a two percent adjustment was made to the March - May 2003 pig crop.

The operations-related estimates that are traditionally included in this report will be combined with the cattle, sheep, and dairy operations and published in a single Livestock Operations report in the Spring of 2004. The delay of this publication will allow a more complete analysis of the estimates in consideration of the 2002 Census of Agriculture data. These operation-related estimates will no longer be published in the individual commodity reports.